GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
Registration of Audio Visual Media
Datta Shri Sankar Prasad

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of print, audio and visual media registered in the country;

(b) whether any of them forfeited registration for violating rules of registration and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government attempted or felt the need to amend rules and regulations in tune with fast changing perceptions of the society and the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) The total number of Newspapers (Print Media) registered during 2014-15 by the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) were 5,783.

Further, as on date, the total number of permitted private satellite TV channels is 892.

Furthermore, permission have been granted to 47 companies to operate 363 Private FM Radio Channels.

(b) A total number of 22 registrations were cancelled by District Magistrate as per section 8(B) of Press and Registration of Books (PRB) Act, 1867 from January, 2016 to 25.11.2016, the details of which is placed at Annexure-I.

Further, permissions granted to 6 companies to operate 26 FM Radio channels have been revoked by the Government for violating provisions of the Policy Guidelines of expansion of FM Radio broadcasting through private agencies and the Grant of Permission Agreement. The detailed list is attached at Annexure-II.

This Ministry has cancelled 68 TV channels due to violation of Uplinking & Downlinking Guidelines. A list of such 68 channels is placed in the Annexure-III.

(c) The process of the Press and Registration of Books and Publications (PRBP) Bill, 2016 is underway to amend the existing PRB Act, 1867 keeping in view the requirements of society perception and interest of stakeholders.